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October 6, 2013

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Maddy Events

Maddy Report: “Building Up or Building Out: The Dollars and Cents (Sense) of Smart Growth” -- Guests Joseph Minicozzi, Principal – Urban 3; Clovis Mayor Lynne Ashbeck and Modesto Mayor Garrard Marsh discuss smart growth with Maddy Institute Executive Director Mark Keppler. The show airs on Newstalk 580 KMJ on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 10-11 a.m.

Maddy Report: “California’s Watchdogs” -- Guests Mac Taylor, head of California’s Legislature Analyst’s Office; California State Auditor Elaine Howle; and Stuart Drown, director of California’s Little Hoover Commission, discuss their watchdog responsibilities with Maddy Institute Executive Director Mark Keppler. The show airs on KVPT (ValleyPBS) on Friday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.

The Maddy Report airs throughout California on The Cal Channel. Check <http://www.calchannel.com> to find the Cal Channel and schedule in your area. You can also view previous Maddy Report programs in their entirety at <http://www.maddyinstitute.org/policy-analysis/the-maddy-report-tv>.

Maddy Institute Updates List of San Joaquin Valley Elected Officials – The Maddy Institute has updated its list of San Joaquin Valley elected officials. The list is available [here](#).

Maddy Institute on Facebook and Twitter – To learn about Maddy Institute activities (e.g. *The Maddy Report* tv show, *The Maddy Associates' Luncheons*, the *Maddy Legislative Intern Program*), become a fan of the Maddy Institute on Facebook or log on to <http://twitter.com/MaddyInstitute>. And if you have a Facebook or Twitter account, please add us and follow us!

Political Briefs

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Top stories

Signing Trust Act is another illegal-immigration milestone for Brown – On a day when immigrant-rights activists nationwide rallied for action from Washington, Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) put California at the vanguard of change, signing sweeping laws aimed at speeding the assimilation of those in the country illegally. [LA Times article](#); [San Jose Mercury News article](#); [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Dan Walters: Money could spell doom for two big California projects – It's evident that Brown, now the state's longest-serving governor, intends for two massive public works projects to become lasting memorials – not unlike the State Water Project that was so closely identified with his father and gubernatorial predecessor, Pat Brown. [Walters column in Sacramento Bee](#)

In new term, Supreme Court may steer to right on key social issues -- The Supreme Court's conservative bloc has a clear chance to shift the law to the right on abortion, contraception, religion and campaign funding. [LA Times article](#)

Valley politics

Robert Price: DCCC paints Valadao into its bull's-eye -- Democrats hold a 15-point registration advantage in the district, however, making Congressman David Valadao a target -- and a vulnerable one if the Democrats put up, and fund, a credible candidate. And now they have: Tulare County native Amanda Renteria, a Stanford grad, former intercollegiate athlete, Harvard Business School alum and veteran U.S. Senate staffer. [Price column in Bakersfield Californian](#)

Three hope to lead Modesto City Council District 2 -- Three candidates are running in the Nov. 5 election to represent the district on the City Council: Tony Madrigal, Jon Rodriguez and Juan Telles. Councilman Dave Geer, 71, is not running for re-election. Madrigal and Telles support Measure X, the 1-cent temporary sales tax on the November ballot. City officials say the tax should bring in about \$26 million annually over its six-year life. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Modesto Bee: A progress report on the bills introduced by our state legislators -- In March, we presented on this page a recap of the legislation proposed by our region's state legislators. Today, we provide an update on what happened to those bills. [Modesto Bee editorial](#)

Judy Sly: Missing signs and a false endorsement claim -- You might think this is fall, but in local politics it is the silly season. Here are some signs. [Sly column in Modesto Bee](#)

Statewide politics

State GOP convention exposes intraparty rifts -- As the party seeks to stem two decades of decline in California and unseat Jerry Brown in 2014, a tea party member draws cheers, and a former lieutenant governor is called "a traitor." [LA Times article](#)

Abel Maldonado tells California Republicans he can beat Jerry Brown -- As California Republicans gather this weekend for their biannual convention, [Abel Maldonado](#) has ensconced himself at the party hotel, telling anyone who will listen -- reporters, [party activists](#), busboys -- that he can beat Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) next year. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Bullhorn in hand, Tim Donnelly warns Jerry Brown to 'keep his hands off our guns' -- Perhaps it was so people could hear him over the wind or because his campaign for governor hasn't been getting much attention that [Tim Donnelly](#), the assemblyman from [Twin Peaks](#), took to a bullhorn at a news conference Saturday afternoon. He sounded off on libertarian themes, warning Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) to "keep his hands off our guns" or "pay the price at the [ballot box](#)." [Capitol Alert; San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Voter ID measure clears first hurdle at GOP convention -- Members of the [California Republican Party](#) will take up a proposal to call for a state voter identification law on the final day of their fall convention, after a tea party group successfully pushed the measure through a party committee Saturday. [Capitol Alert](#)

At GOP convention, teachers union hosts hors d'oeuvres – The [California Teachers Association](#), a major benefactor of Gov. Jerry Brown and other Democratic causes, is among three public [employee unions](#) that have made modest contributions to the [California Republican Party](#) in recent weeks. [Capitol Alert](#)

Whaaa? A pro-choice, pro-gay marriage female Republican candidate? – A few years ago — geez, maybe LAST year — Catharine Baker wouldn't have got a second look as a candidate in the California Republican Party. Why? She's pro-choice and supports same sex marriage — virtual disqualifiers in a party long ruled by social conservatives. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

California Strategies walks fine line between lobbying and public affairs – Devon Ford, an associate in the influential public affairs firm California Strategies, sounded enthusiastic about an event his company was hosting at the Auto Club Speedway, a Southern California racetrack in Fontana that is one of its clients. The excursion was billed as an educational opportunity for legislators and their staff to learn about what he called "the excitement of IndyCar racing," and included a tour of the garage, face time with Speedway's president and dinner in the private skybox during the race. But because the firm was inviting government officials, Ford issued a warning in an email to colleagues. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Immigration

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Rally, march for immigration reform in downtown Fresno draws 300 – Children holding a 50-foot banner of American flags led a march in downtown Fresno on Saturday in support of immigration reform to provide a pathway to U.S. citizenship for millions. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Bakersfield Californian: Driver's license law the correct route for state – HIT: Undocumented immigrants. Illegal aliens. Call them what you want. Very soon, we'll be calling many of them licensed California drivers. [Bakersfield Californian editorial](#)

Illegal immigrants allowed to practice law in California – Illegal immigrants can be licensed to practice law in California under one of eight bills expanding immigrant rights that were signed by Governor Jerry Brown on Saturday. [Reuters article](#)

Government shutdown

Sacramento Bee: Shutdown has real impacts, which will only increase -- Until House Speaker John Boehner and his team can muster the courage to defy their reckless minority, the American people they represent will pay the price. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

House votes to pay workers furloughed during government shutdown – The House unanimously agreed Saturday to provide back pay for hundreds of thousands of furloughed federal workers, but they showed no sign of ending the impasse that has forced much of the government to [shut down](#). [LA Times article](#)

Republicans in California greet government shutdown with worry – Rep. [Greg Walden's](#) absence from the Anaheim gathering exemplified the shadow the Capitol standoff has cast across grass-roots Republicans eyeing next year's elections. In Anaheim, as in Washington, the mood among Republicans seemed to meld support for the goals of GOP congressional leaders and an expectation that Republicans would pay a price for them. [LA Times article](#)

The shutdown is a Republican civil war – We're used to brinkmanship in Washington resulting from conflict between Democrats and Republicans. But this shutdown is different. It's a fight between Republicans and Republicans -- or, more specifically, Republicans and the Tea Party. [Washington Post article](#)

Some longtime Republican donors are unnerved by GOP's shutdown strategy – Veteran Republican fundraisers are increasingly alarmed by the defiant stance of [hard-line conservatives](#) amid the [federal government shutdown](#), prompting fears that many key donors may be restrained in their giving going into the [2014 midterms](#). [Washington Post article](#)

Dan Morain: California's own GOP suicide caucus – Conservative commentator [Charles Krauthammer](#) called shutdown supporters the "suicide caucus." Rep. Devin Nunes, a San Joaquin Valley Republican, likened shutdown backers to lemmings wearing suicide vests. But the pressure to leap lemming like into the abyss is considerable. FreedomWorks, which spends millions on campaigns, has included signing Meadows' letter as part of its litmus test. [Morain column in Sacramento Bee](#)

More campgrounds close but private facilities unaffected by shutdown – Outdoor camping enthusiasts have had their options severely limited by the partial government shutdown as national parks and smaller camping areas have closed until Congress ends its political standoff. But operators of private campgrounds say they remain open for business. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Willie Brown: GOP split makes Nancy Pelosi more powerful than ever -- What you're really seeing in this partial shutdown of the federal government is the launch of Republican Sen. [Ted Cruz's](#) 2016 presidential campaign and the resurrection of [Nancy Pelosi](#). [Brown column in San Francisco Chronicle](#)

Other areas

A federal budget crisis months in the planning – Shortly after President Obama started his second term, a loose-knit coalition of conservative activists led by former Attorney General Edwin Meese III gathered in the capital to plot strategy. Their push to repeal Mr. Obama's [health care law](#) was going nowhere, and they desperately needed a new plan. [New York Times article](#)

Recalling California's recall: Arnold Schwarzenegger era changed nothing -- Sure, the Golden State is better off in 2013 than it was in 2003 -- the budget deficit is gone and our lights stay on, at least. But, looking back a decade later, California's "different path" led us to a place very similar to the one where we had been. Some say it was the recall's failure to change anything that finally changed things. [San Jose Mercury News article](#)

What happened to the top 10 finishers in California's 2003 recall election? -- What happened to the top 10 finishers in 2003's gubernatorial recall election? [Contra Costa Times article](#)

John Myers: 10 years later, 10 recall moments -- The removal of Gov. Gray Davis by voters on October 7, 2003 -- the ten year anniversary of which is Monday -- was the first, and to date only, recall of a sitting governor in state history and only the second in American history. It was a political free-for-all like none other. So, in honor of ten years, an unofficial list of the 2003 recall's ten biggest moments. [Myers in News10 Sacramento](#)

Law offers hope to victims of 'revenge porn' -- A new law signed last week by Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) will help some victims of revenge porn, but not the largest and growing group. That's because the law doesn't cover "selfies," the self-shot pictures all too popular with teens and people in their 20s. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

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News Briefs

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Top Issue: Jobs and the Economy

Pentagon to recall 400,000 furloughed workers -- The [Pentagon](#) will bring most of its 400,000 furloughed civilian employees back to work, officials said Saturday, after concluding that it has legal authority to do so. [LA Times article](#)

Stockton Record: Daylight at the end of tunnel -- The bankruptcy process is far from over but the road ahead, bumpy as it undoubtedly will be, seems clearer. [Stockton Record editorial](#)

Forum to tackle new tax – A debate over the city's proposed tax increase, what officials consider the linchpin to the city's recovery, will take center stage Monday in a live forum featuring two opposing voices. City Manager Bob Deis and former state Assemblyman Dean Andal and others will answer questions in the event hosted by the League of Women Voters of San Joaquin County. [Stockton Record article](#)

Stockton Record: Yes on Measures A and B – What this city needs now is for Stockton voters to swallow hard, have some faith and pass these measures. We must have that. [Stockton Record editorial](#)

Mike Klocke: Don't let politics keep more police from city streets – Personally, not professionally, I want more police officers and the Marshall Plan programs that would go along with them if the Measure A 3/4-cent tax measure is passed. It would be very unfortunate if politics are a deciding factor in whether Stockton citizens get 120 or so more police officers. [Klocke column in Stockton Record](#)

Fresno homeowners get \$235 million in mortgage relief – A statewide mortgage agreement between California's attorney general and three of the nation's largest banks has brought more than \$235 million in mortgage relief to Fresno County homeowners, according to a new report. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Federal judge says Sacramento County retirees aren't entitled to permanent health care subsidies – Retired Sacramento County employees have no legal right to unending health care subsidies from the county, a federal judge has ruled. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Stores closing as other opening in Modesto area – It's been a busy time for business recently, with lots of closures but a few openings, as well. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Duncan's vision has thrived in Fresno for nearly seven decades – While many American businesses suffered in the recent recession, one Fresno-based company managed to thrive as it has done for the better part of seven decades. iLoveToCreate — started in 1946 by ceramic artist Erma Duncan in her Fresno garage as Duncan Ceramic Studio — is a leading manufacturer and distributor of supplies for the craft and hobby industry as well as the niche ceramic arts market. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Raiders owner scouts Concord site for new stadium -- [Oakland Raiders](#) owner [Mark Davis](#) took a tour of the old [Concord Naval Weapons Station](#) the other day - with an eye toward whether it could be just the place for a new stadium for the team. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Top Stories

Days may be numbered for farmland rush – Concerns are rising in Kern County's agricultural community that a looming interest rate hike could halt California's farming boom. The overriding worry is that the Federal Reserve's plans to wean the economy off low interest rates will drive up borrowing costs and, as a result, strengthen the U.S. dollar. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Rim fire flames out, but danger looms in Sierras – The tragedy was linked to the torched vegetation from the earlier wildfires, which left open forest ground that quickly eroded in the big winter storm, geologists said. Now geologists worry about a similar threat to people this winter when the rain hits the ground charred by the Rim fire in Stanislaus National Forest and Yosemite National Park. [Fresno Bee article](#)

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Prisons/Criminal Justice

Low Griswold: Media get tour of prison in Corcoran – Reporters last week visited a security housing unit at Corcoran State Prison, where gang leaders and inmates who attack guards or hurt other prisoners are kept. The tour marked the first time in the prison's 25-year history that reporters were allowed into such a unit, officials said. [Griswold in Fresno Bee](#)

Steve Lopez: Courts need alternatives in dealing with mentally ill – If you were to spend much time at the Airport Courthouse, a branch of the Los Angeles County Superior Court located just south of [LAX](#), you would begin to notice lots of yellow and blue. As in yellow shirts and blue pants, the outfits worn by Los Angeles County jail inmates who have been diagnosed with a [mental illness](#). [Lopez column in LA Times](#)

Agriculture/Water

Jeffrey Michael: The economic case for a Bay Delta Conservation Plan without the twin tunnels – The director of the Business Forecasting Center at the University of the Pacific writes, "The tunnel-focused plan does not make financial sense, creates new environmental risks and has negative impacts on Delta communities. Fortunately, a no-tunnel Bay Delta Conservation Plan is a viable option to enhance [endangered species](#), while bringing valuable regulatory stability to water agencies at an affordable cost." [Michael op-ed in Sacramento Bee](#)

Mike Lynch: Turlock Irrigation District, cities need to follow through on old water promise – The government affairs consultant and member of the Turlock Chamber of Commerce board of directors writes, "Our civic leaders in TID and the cities in the TID service area have taken so long to fulfill what MID and Modesto have had for more than 20 years that there soon may be no water to share. TID, the cities within its borders and Stanislaus County must act, and soon." [Lynch op-ed in Modesto Bee](#)

Education

Sacramento Bee: Schools are setting too many trouble kids adrift -- California has to reverse the tide of throwaway kids. Kids like Erick Araujo need a structured program and caring adults, not self-study. [Sacramento Bee editorial](#)

Tuolumne schools balk at merger idea – There's an effort afoot in the foothills to consolidate Tuolumne County schools under a single administration instead of a dozen, a move proposed by a group of local taxpayers and one staunchly opposed by many trustees and community stalwarts. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Energy/Environment

State's proposed chromium-6 water standard draws ire – Some, including the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, think a historic proposed California limit for cancer-causing chromium-6 in drinking water is set too low and so will cost too much to implement. Others, including activist Erin Brockovich and some Hinkley residents, think it's not low enough and compromises the safety of many California residents. [Inland Daily Bulletin article](#)

Brown signs law amending state's anti-toxins law, Prop 65 – Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) on Saturday signed into law changes to Proposition 65, the state's landmark anti-toxins law, that aim to reduce lawsuits and fines for businesses. [LA Times article](#)

Turning trash into gas helps planet, pocketbook – When most San Joaquin County residents take out the trash, they'll also soon be turning on the lights across Northern California. Two major local landfills - one private, the other operated by the county - are within months of finishing new power plants that will take harmful methane gas created by the decomposition of garbage and convert it into electricity. [Stockton Record article](#)

Sacramento launches major parks expansion – The work is being funded by \$21 million pouring into Sacramento's parks system over the next two years. It's one of the most ambitious expansion and renovation efforts in recent memory for a network of green space that spans more than 3,000 acres at 222 parks. Funding for the projects is coming from a diverse pot of money, including state grants and fees paid by developers. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

Health/Human Services

Flood of consumer inquiries could make – or break – Obama health law -- Strong consumer interest heartens backers of Obama's healthcare law, but persistent glitches could spell trouble. [LA Times article](#)

Health insurance shoppers suffer sticker shock – Now that she's seen her options, Ross is disappointed. Turns out she earns slightly too much money to qualify for federal financial aid to help her buy coverage in the state's exchange, called Covered California. And because policies have to be upgraded to comply with the new law, her rates are going up nearly 10 percent. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

Schools work to raise awareness of concussions – Local schools were already attempting to educate coaches and parents about the symptoms and risks of concussions, but interest in the issue is ramping up. Hall Ambulance's annual Head Injuries in Student Athletes lecture drew more than 100 coaches and other sports officials last month, the most since the event began eight years ago. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Schools, health agency team up to battle asthma – A new pilot program between the Bakersfield City School District and Kern Health Systems -- which administers one of two Medi-Cal managed care plans in the county -- aims to help kids like Simon keep their asthma in check. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Bakersfield Californian: Kern Medical Center needs fundamental change – and fast – The "all-star team" of community leaders that Kern County Supervisor Mike Maggard has convened to sort out the future of the troubled county-run hospital has its work cut out. Lack of oversight by both Kern Medical Center's top executives and the Board of Supervisors itself has plunged the hospital into a multimillion-dollar financial hole that may not be survivable. [Bakersfield Californian editorial](#)

Bakersfield CPR case prompts new law – Gov. Jerry Brown on Saturday signed into law a bill that prohibits companies from adopting policies banning employees from performing CPR and other medical services in an emergency. The measure was a response to an incident in at a Bakersfield nursing facility last February. After an elderly woman collapsed, an employee refused to perform CPR on her, citing company policy. The woman later died. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

Unvaccinated children helped fuel whooping cough outbreak, data show -- Children who did not get vaccinated against [whooping cough](#) contributed to the 2010 outbreak of the illness, when more cases were reported than in any year since 1947, researchers say. [LA Times article](#)

Mayor gives San Francisco a C for homeless programs – It's unusual for a politician to admit he's not doing a great job - and even more unusual for a politician to rate himself as downright average. So it was surprising when Mayor [Ed Lee](#) said he'd give his administration a mere C on the issue of homelessness at a recent gathering of the Monday Group, a high-society public affairs forum at Nob Hill's Huntington Hotel. [San Francisco Chronicle article](#)

[Transportation](#)

Study: Fresno roads better than many in California – About 25% of Fresno's major thoroughfares and highways are considered to be in "poor" condition, costing drivers hundreds of dollars more each year in

increased wear and tear on their vehicles. That might not sound like much to brag about, but a report released last week by transportation experts shows that it's considerably better than most of California's other large cities. [Fresno Bee article](#)

Other Areas

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65 weapons collected at buyback – After handing her shotgun over to police Saturday morning, Sasha Gutierrez took \$50 in cash from Mayor Anthony Silva, who thanked her for participating in his gun buy-back event. All told, police collected 65 weapons at the drive-through event in a parking lot off West Fremont Street in downtown Stockton. A total of \$5,700 in cash was handed out to those willing to turn over their guns to be destroyed by police. [Stockton Record article](#)

Some prominent community leaders want new courthouse on I Street, not 10th Street -- Some powerful community leaders are vowing to fight to keep Stanislaus County's courthouse on I Street, which they consider the civic and cultural center of Modesto. They're blasting state and city officials for cutting the public out of the decision-making process, and they contend shifting the courthouse to 10th Street would be a major mistake. [Modesto Bee article](#)

Michael Fitzgerald: City is only as good as its civic IQ -- Stockton's woeful illiteracy rate got a lot of discussion the other day, as it should. But perhaps we should pay as much attention to related scourge: civic illiteracy. [Fitzgerald column in Stockton Record](#)

Valley Editorial Roundup

Bakersfield Californian – The "all-star team" of community leaders that Kern County Supervisor Mike Maggard has convened to sort out [the future of the troubled county-run hospital](#) has its work cut out; Immigrant driver's license law is [the correct route](#) for Californian.

Fresno Bee – California has too many kids who are truant, suspended or expelled — and then relegated to [a largely hidden world of alternative schools or independent study](#).

Modesto Bee – In March, we presented on this page a recap of the legislation proposed by our region's state legislators. Today, we provide an update on [what happened to those bills](#).

Sacramento Bee – Until House Speaker John Boehner and his team can [muster the courage](#) to defy their reckless minority, the American people they represent will pay the price; California has to [reverse the tide of throwaway kids](#). Kids like Erick Araujo need a structured program and caring adults, not self-study.

Stockton Record – What this city needs now is for Stockton voters to swallow hard, have some faith and pass Measures A and B. We must have that; Daylight at the end of tunnel – The bankruptcy process is far from over but the road ahead, bumpy as it undoubtedly will be, seems clearer.

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Upcoming Events

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•██████████ The Gazarian Real Estate Center at Fresno State will co-sponsor the 2013 Fresno Housing Market Symposium at the University Business Center on Friday, Oct. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The event is complimentary with advanced registration. To register on-line, please visit www.gazarian.info.

•██████████ Fresno State's University Center to Advance Manufacturing will hold its third annual conference, "Facets of a Sustainable Business," at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Clovis on Friday, Oct. 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. More information: Don Austin at (559) 278-6494 or daustin@csufresno.edu.

•██████████ The Smart Valley Places partnership will hold its final convention at the Visalia Convention Center on Tuesday, Nov. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Manuel Pastor, author of "Just Growth: Inclusion and Prosperity in America's Metropolitan Regions." Please register by Oct. 28 at www.smartvalleyplaces2013.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Ben Noble at (510) 848-3815 or jwinter@planningcenter.com

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Interactive

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Next 10: UPDATED California budget challenge – For the first time in a decade, California's budget is largely in balance. However, the state has outstanding debts of \$28 million, not counting long-term pension and retiree health care costs. Budget choices affect us all. Take the Challenge and decide how much should be spent on programs and where the money should come from. [Next 10 California Budget Challenge](#)

Next 10: Federal budget challenge -- The Federal Budget Challenge is based on The Concord Coalition's Principles and Priorities budget exercise, which has been used in numerous town hall meetings across the country by members of Congress from both parties, as well as in hundreds of high school and college classrooms. Next 10 Federal Budget challenge at www.federalbudgetchallenge.org.

LEGISLATORS' VOTING RECORDS: How often has a California legislator broken party ranks, abstained or switched sides? The Sacramento Bee has a database of the voting records of every member of the state Senate and Assembly. Enter a lawmaker's last and first names to see how he or she voted, or enter a bill number to see how every legislator voted on it. Check it out [at this link](http://www.sacbee.com/votingrecord/).
<http://www.sacbee.com/votingrecord/>

The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute at California State University, Fresno was established to honor the legacy of one of California's most principled and effective legislative leaders of the last half of the 20th Century by engaging, preparing and inspiring a new generation of governmental leaders for the 21st Century. Its mission is to inspire citizen participation, elevate government performance, provide non-partisan analysis and assist in providing solutions for public policy issues important to the region, state and nation.

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